

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application. Claims 7-9, 11-15, and 17-29 are pending. Claims 12, 17, and 18 have been amended. No claims have been cancelled or added. Therefore, claims 7-9, 11-15, and 17-29 are now presented for examination.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for the Examiner's careful examination, and the finding of allowable subject matter in the claims presented herein.

Claim Amendment

Claim 12 has been modified to correct the language of the claim. A portion of the claim was not correctly incorporated in the claim elements, which has corrected in the amendment. It is submitted that no new subject matter is added by the amendment.

Examiner's Amendments

The amendments suggested by the Examiner have been incorporated into claims 17 and 18. As indicated, these claims have been corrected to be dependent on claim 13, as opposed to cancelled claim 13.

Information Disclosure Statement

In addition, Applicant presents the additional items for Examiner's review in the information disclosure statement filed herewith.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections have been overcome by the amendment and remark, and that the claims as amended are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the rejections be withdrawn and the claims as amended be allowed.

Invitation for a Telephone Interview

The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (503) 439-8778 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

Request for an Extension of Time

The Applicant respectfully petitions for an extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) should one be necessary. Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 to cover the necessary fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 for such an extension.

Charge our Deposit Account

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Date:

9/27/06



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